

THE FARMINGTON TIMES

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THE NATION'S MOTTO:
"Save the Waste and Win the War."

RATES MUST BE LOWERED

There is one indispensable condition precedent to compliance with the laws of Missouri governing valuation of property for purposes of taxation. The taxpayers must be assured that the State rate and the local rates will be reduced after property is assessed at full value, as the law requires and as is necessary to the uniformity of valuation which is the very essence of equitable State taxation. The various county, township, school district, city and village boards must not begin reckoning on how much additional revenue a proper valuation will yield for their purposes. Should the people decide that the collecting of more money for all purposes is the object of the reform to which the State Tax Commission and the assessors are committed, there will be such a storm of protest as will endanger the success of the movement. Gov. Gardner has promised that the General Assembly will be asked to reduce the State rate, as soon as the matter of valuation is settled in conformity with the constitution. The various local tax bodies should pledge themselves to reduce the levies when the valuation is raised, says the Globe-Democrat.

The question of levies within the statutory maximum, may be decided by each community. There may be some communities that are unable to meet necessary expenditures under the maximum levy on the existing valuation. A proper valuation will give them much needed relief. But there are other communities that find the levy adequate. When the valuation is increased in such communities the rates should be lowered, and they will be, if the people show their customary vigilance in such matters. Many counties will pay more State taxation than they have heretofore, but if the proposed reform is successful at every point the amount of new property discovered for purposes of taxation will be sufficient to keep the State rate down, although it is very low now, compared with that of other States. The State tax is only a small part of the burden of taxpayers.

When the people are assured as to rates, they cannot consistently oppose the reform in valuation. No honest citizen can insist on one county paying twice as much State taxes as another that has equal property.

The meeting that had been called to meet at Kennett, by Senator Ely, for the announced purpose of protesting against the conduct of Senators Stone and Reed, has been called off, for the announced reason that it may be taking unfair advantage of the Senators while their engagements at Washington are such as to prevent them from making any defense of their actions at the proposed meeting. The Times agrees that it is best to cancel such proposed meeting, but would not imply by such statement that the two Senators have been right in all their actions in the present Congress. Neither are we disposed to condemn them. This paper realizes that the information in the hands of Missouri's Senators, who are admittedly two of the strongest intellects in the Upper House, is perhaps far more complete than we have been able to secure, and so long as President Wilson does not see fit to "break" with them, we feel that it is not up to the people to hold meetings for the purpose of denouncing them. It is certainly ample time for the people of Missouri to hold "protest" meetings after Senators Stone and Reed have been denounced by the President, who would naturally be the first to feel the gall and wormwood of their opposition.

STARVATION NEAR IN GERMANY

There is no actual starvation near in Germany at this time, judging from information from Americans who have been in that country since the start of the war until a few weeks ago. This was a bad crop year in Germany owing to an exceedingly long drought. Everything commands an enormous price. Common articles are only to be had at long intervals and at a price that is prohibitive to the poor. A loaf of black bread, twice the weight of an ordinary loaf in this country, costs 63 cents. All milk is reserved for the hospitals and infants. There is no wrapping paper, no twine, no sugar, coffee or tea to be had at any price, and such a thing as a square meal is only known to those of wealth and power. It is said that there is not a cat to be found in all of Berlin and very few hogs. These animals have been killed, and it is suspected that some of them went for human food. The Emperor and the royal family live well and none of them have suffered bodily harm from the war.

If the Hohenzollern bunch had finished the war business in the allotted six weeks the crown prince would not have had his glory rubbed off by Hindenburg.

"WILLY" AND "NICKY"

From the moment that Frederick the Great signed that remarkable will, in which he disposed, as Mr. Gerard truly states, of the Kingdom of Prussia as if it had been one of his horses, no more remarkable transaction surely has been recorded than that between his descendant, the Kaiser, and the Tzar of all the Russians for the "belgiuming", if we may be allowed to coin the word, of Denmark and the destruction of the British Empire as a great power. Frederick the Great bequeathed to his nephew "the provinces, towns, palaces, forts, fortresses, all ammunition and arsenals, all lands mine by inheritance or right of conquest, the Crown jewels, gold and silver service of the plate in Berlin, country houses, collections of coins, picture galleries, gardens, etc." From this it will be seen that the Kingdom of Prussia, together with all the towns and cities over which the great soldier ruled, were passed along, as Mr. Gerard says, with the same easy familiarity as the King's private tables. Now the worst of this belief of the right of a person to dispose of the destinies of countries and peoples is that it acts as an example for and incitement to future exhibitions of arbitrary power, and no better example of this could perhaps be forthcoming than the remarkable series of telegrams, which has just been unearthed among the Tzar's papers, and printed on another page of this paper, and which affords the evidence of hte plans discussed and agreed upon by "Nicky" and "Willy" for fomenting trouble in the year 1905.

The Triple Alliance of that day was planned to attack the British Empire. The jumping-off ground was, for naval reasons, to have been Denmark; and the powers engaged, if only everything had worked for the best, in accordance with the best intentions of the best possible Emperors, were to have been Germany, Russia and France. France, it is true, was not eventually asked, but the French Republic was to have been dragged into the war, attached to the tail of the Russian comet, or, as "Willy" put it, in a telegram, dated October 27, 1904, once the German-Russian alliance was consummated, "it is out of question that France on such indication would try to shirk her implicit duty towards her ally; though Delcasse is Anglophile enrage, he will be wise enough to understand that British fleet is utterly unable to have Paris." After which followed the distinctly delightful indication of the Kaiser's determination not to forget business even when engaged in pleasure. "You ought not to forget to order new ships so as to be ready with some of them when the war is over. They will be excellent persuaders during present negotiations. Our private firms will be most glad to receive your contracts." Can anybody be reasonably surprised that such sentiment should have caused "Nicky" to telegraph to "Willy", "May God help us. Hearty thanks for your loyal friendship which I trust beyond everything." The juxtaposition of the Tzar's two sentences is full of a pathetic even if of a ludicrous significance.

Two days later, the Russian Admiral, having completely lost his nerve, in the North Sea, and taking an English fishing fleet, off the Dogger bank, for Japanese torpedo boats, having fired on and sunk some of them, the Tzar was naturally indignant at the protests of Mr. Balfour, who was then Prime Minister, in London, and was for upholding with the Kaiser the freedom of the seas. "It is certainly high time to put a stop to this," he telegraphed to the Kaiser, "the only way, as you say, would be that Germany, Russia and France should at once unite upon arrangements to abolish English-Japanese arrogance and insolence. Would you like to lay down the form outlines of such treaty? As soon as accepted by us France is bound to join her ally."

It need hardly be said that the Kaiser was delighted with the commission, and a draft treaty was duly forwarded to the Tzar, who was so sufficiently overcome by the loyal friendship which he trusted beyond everything, as to indicate to the Kaiser that he had changed his mind about showing the treaty to France. To which the Kaiser immediately replied, "You have given me new proof of your perfect loyalty by decision not to inform France without my agreement. It is my firm conviction that it would be absolutely dangerous to inform France of treaty." Wonderful prescience! the simple fact being that, as the Kaiser went on to explain, what it would be wise to do would be to hold an unsigned treaty over the head of France as a club to force the Republic to induce her "secret ally", the United Kingdom, to keep quiet, so as not to combine its fleet with that of Japan in "an enormous maritime superiority," which, as the Kaiser put it, "would soon make short work of my small fleet." The Kaiser, it is to be observed, was getting ready.

The immediate result of these negotiations was an agreement between the Kaiser and the Tzar to declare the Baltic a closed sea. But finding that Denmark, which was vitally interested in this proposal, was as declined to be a party to it, as Belgium proved disinclined to permit the German armies to cross its territory in 1914, to attack France, the decision was taken to treat Denmark as Belgium was subsequently treated. As a preliminary step, however, "Willy" made a trip to Copenhagen, where he was entertained by "Nicky's" "dear old grandfather." He quickly satisfied himself that the Danish people were quite as suspicious of his good offices as the Belgians subsequently had reason to be. Therefore he telegraphed to the Tzar that he had come to the conclusion that it was wisest "not to touch the subject with the Danes." The Danes, he explained, had already come to the conclusion that in the event of a war with England, Russia and Germany would immediately take steps to occupy their country during the period of the struggle. Inasmuch, however, the Kaiser pointed out, as this would guarantee the territory and future existence of the dynasty and country, the people were slowly resigning themselves to the idea; and

this spirit of resignation being exactly what the Tzar had hoped for, he had thought it better to refrain from saying anything to the "dear old grandfather," since "it is better to let the idea develop and ripen in their heads and let them draw final conclusions themselves, so that they will on their own accord be moved to lean upon us and fall in line with our two countries." The morality of the whole proceeding stands in its naked barbarity, and it is the most perfect commentary, written in advance, on the subsequent fate of Belgium.

In the end France was never told at all. Monsieur Delcasse proved so outrageously "Anglophile enrage" that he actually made an agreement with the United Kingdom at a moment when that country and Germany were at loggerheads, and when "Willy" was "doing his best" for "Nicky," France's own ally. "This is an experiment," "Willy" telegraphed in consequence of this, to the Tzar, on the 29th of September, 1905, "which she must not repeat, and against repetition of which I must expect you to guard me." And again, "Our treaty is a very good base to build upon. We joined hands and signed before God, who heard our vows. I, therefore, think the treaty can well come into existence. What is signed is signed. God is our testator."

This then is the testament of Willy and Nicky, the great twin brothers of the world's autocracy. And Nicky is a prisoner in his own Siberia, whilst Mr. Wilson is talking of the elimination of Willy.—Christian Science Monitor.

THE VIEW OF ONE GERMAN

From the Tecumseh, Neb., Chief-tain the following splendid expression of one truly loyal German-American citizen is taken. He tells briefly, yet forcibly, why no German citizen of the United States should think of turning against Uncle Sam for the Kaiser, or any other "king, prince or potentate." You should read it, as it is well worth reading:

Jacob Cratts of Nemaha county is one of many Germans who appreciate the wonderful opportunities he has found in this country. He has written a letter, over his signature, to The Auburn Republican, in which he says he cannot account for the disloyalty there seems to be on the part of some of his countrymen. His letter follows: in full:

"I have seen several articles about Germans trying to raise strife in this country. I am a German by birth and I am an American, heart and hand. I will tell you why I left Germany. There were ten in our family and we were poor like the most of my countrymen who come to the good old United States of America to get away from oppression, and it was a hard matter to keep the wolf from the door at times. When I landed in this country I received work at once and received more money for one month's work than I received in Germany for one year's work. I sent for my folks and I am proud they are all true American citizens and will answer the President's call to arms against Germany or any other country when needed."

"I don't see how my countrymen can go back on Uncle Sam. They came here without a cent and made money here; now they want to fight the country that feeds them. The Kaiser never did anything for them or for me. If he had we would be back there yet. All he did was to start this cruel war and starve all our people there and make soldiers out of everybody and force them to work for his dirty 12 cents a day with a fourth of a pound of meat and a loaf of black bread. I hope to see the day when he is kicked out of Germany and a president put in his place. You don't see any Americans going over there for jobs or to any other nation. They are too happy here and don't owe any allegiance to any king or Kaiser. I hope Uncle Sam will win."

"Stop all foreign papers printed in the United States. If they can't read English, let them learn, and keep all foreign languages out of the schools. The English language is good enough for anybody."

GERMANY'S EXHAUSTION

Assuming that the figures of German losses and present army are correct as given, it is plain that she has passed the zenith of her power and has been going down the other side rapidly all summer. No nation in modern times has placed such a large proportion of her man power under arms as Germany has in this war. In ancient times, when the whole tribe bore arms and every man was a fighting man, whether he had flat feet or a crooked finger or not, the percentage of men in the ranks was much larger than now. More home work is now necessary to maintain armies in the field. It is estimated that it takes at least two at home to maintain one man in the ranks.

The usual estimate of a nation's utmost strength in the field is ten per cent of its population. On that basis Germany would have had only 7,000,000 men. These figures show that she has put under arms or has available and about to arm a total of 10,600,000 men. This includes all the land-sturm, being men up to 55 years of age, and all boys as young as 17 years, "robbing the cradle and the grave", as was said of the Confederacy in the last year of our Civil War. In other words, having made her supreme effort and armed 3,600,000 more men than military authorities in the past reckoned as her utmost fighting strength, she is now unable to repair her losses and has been for some time. Those permanent losses are now 4,500,000 men. She is maintaining now in the field 5,500,000 on all fronts, but will soon be unable to continue to keep such a force. Mathematically it seems clear that Germany has passed her zenith of military power, while the Allies have not yet reached it, counting, if necessary, match every German soldier with another without going to any such extreme as she has done in arming her whole male population.

Does it not seem clear that the experienced military men of Germany recognize the hopelessness of this situation and that this is the genesis of the peace talk and the much milder terms now hinted at than the great annexations and indemnities spoken of even as late as a year ago? Of course, with 5,500,000 men still in the field, even if rapidly depleted, she could hold out a long time if determined to endure everything rather than yield, including starvation and distress at home, but the people of Germany, when they once realize the actual situation, are not likely to hold out, if they know that they are doing so only to keep fastened upon them the military system and empire ambition responsible for their sad estate. But if they do, there should be no question about the war being continued until they abandon them.—St. Louis Star.

FILLING THE SILO

Distributing and packing silage in the silo is frequently neglected. Unless the blower has a distributor attachment there is a tendency for the cut corn to fall in one place in the silo. If the silo is filled in this way, the finer and lighter portions of the stalks are frequently blown to the outside and the heavier parts, ears and butts of stalks, are deposited in the center, thus causing an uneven distribution of grain and stalk and a consequent uneven quality of silage. Uneven distribution is frequently the cause of soft places and air pockets, which later result in spoiled silage. When the lighter portions are blown to the outside they do not pack well and the silage spoils near the wall. Such spoilage, which really results from careless filling, is often attributed to the silo.

Packing the silage is equally important as distribution, according to S. T. Simpson of the University of Missouri College of Agriculture. Thorough packing requires plenty of men and persistent work. Good silage can be had only by uniform packing and uniform distribution of the corn. The entire surface, especially the outer edge, should be packed firmly. The best help obtainable should be stationed in the silo. That is where the silage is ultimately made, and success or failure depends on the ability of the men to distribute and pack the corn.

The large cutter with the corresponding large capacity frequently saves money in filling the silo. If the silo is filled rapidly the corn has little time to settle. Slow filling allows

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HOW TO PUT CHILDREN TO BED

Not with a reproof for any of that day's sins of omission or commission; take any other time but bedtime for that. If you ever heard a little creature sighing in its sleep you could never do this. Seal their closing eyes with a kiss and a blessing. The time will come, all too soon, when they will lay their heads upon their pillows lacking both. Let them at least have the sweet memory of childhood, of which no future sorrow or trouble can rob them. Give them their rosy youth. Nor need this involve wild license. The judicious parent will not mistake the meaning. If you have ever met the man, or woman, whose eyes have suddenly filled when a little child has crept trustingly to its mother's breast, you may have seen one in whose childhood home dignity and severity stood where love and pity should have been.

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A. W. BRADSHAW, Editor and Publisher.